

**NORTHCLIFFE PERSONALLY**

(Wm. Hard in the New Republic.)

Northcliffe said: "Let's go for a drive. But be sure you get me back to the White House at four."

We drove through Rock Creek park. Northcliffe talked a bit about the calls of birds. He lay back. He dozed. He was very hot, and very tired. We got him back to the White House at four.

We were American correspondents, and we were English correspondents.

Other American correspondents came presently. It was the regular hour for an interview between the president and the correspondents.

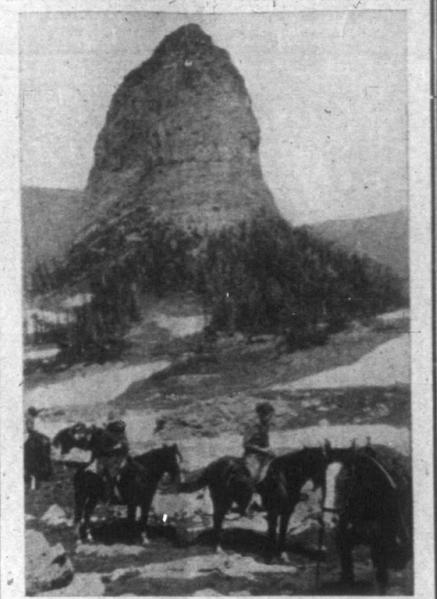
We went into the president's room. We stood before him in a jammed crowd. Northcliffe was about half way back and off toward the left. He noted the president intently.

He had already seen the president alone. It was not enough. He had to see the president as the reporters saw him. He had to note the president as the president talked to the reporters. He had to do the White House reporters' run.

Northcliffe sometimes edited. He sometimes published. He always reported.

He saw Herbert Hoover and then he wanted to see Hiram Johnson. I

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guided him to Johnson's office in the Capitol. He at once began questioning Johnson about California and Japan. He learned a great deal about California and Japan. He also thereby learned a great deal that had a bearing on Britain and the Pacific.

When we left Johnson, Northcliffe said:

"A strong man. In fact, so strong that I should think he would have much trouble getting nominated by a convention.

Once in Paris I found him resting for a day in the midst of long travels from country to country by motor. He was solitary inhabiting a considerable number of enormous rooms. It used to be said of him:

"He seems to get fits of wanting to edit his papers from a grand remote wandering solitude."

On this occasion he was very excited about the strike of the British miners.

"The cut in their wages is too much," he said. "It is too much and too sudden. I asked Lady Northcliffe if she could cut down her household expenses by one-third at one time. She said she could not. Neither can a miner's wife."

For him the story was the depth of the cut. Others might talk about the "national pool" of coal. He went to the thing that went home to everybody.

"I don't understand the 'national pool'," he said. "The miners want it. Some of my people say it's impossible. But anyway I like those miners."

"Why?" I said.

"For striking," he said. "For striking against that cut. As long as Britons won't take a blow like that lying down, Britain is Britain."

I told him that I was going to London that night. He said:

"Do you know any of the younger men in the Labor movement in London—like G. D. H. Cole?"

I said I knew Cole. Northcliffe said:

"That's good. Be sure you know the younger men in the Labor movement. One of them will be prime minister some day, and you'll be glad you knew him before having to go to see him at 10 Downing Street."

I asked him:

"And what will England be when one of these young men is prime minister?"

He said:

"England."

He always told me that there would be a Labor England and he never told me so with fear or even with anxiety. I never saw him have a tremor about England.

When he told me so positively that England would be England under the premiership of Mr. G. D. H. Cole I felt it suitable to tell him that I had been writing abominable articles about what I chose to regard as the abominable behavior of some English Black and Tans in Ireland. He claimed that in the Times he had printed worse articles than mine. He liked to think that nobody could attack a British government more viciously than it was getting attacked in Britain.

England was his certainty, America his study. He was born in Ireland. He knew America much better than he knew Ireland.

He had a jocular order to his editors that they were not to attack America "till the Americans were shelling Liverpool."

At his place in Kent he tried to Anglicize the American robin. He was accused of having Anglicized many American reporters. He never Anglicized the sympathies of one of them as much as his own sympathies were Americanized.

At his place in Kent he would rest. His throat bothered him. Always there were things being done to it. He would lie on a couch and listen and talk.

There was a garden. There was a phonograph. There was a moving picture machine. There were a few guests. There was a secretary, there were the day's papers arriving from London in the dark of the morning.

One evening a guest exhibited a moving picture he had made in the top of a high tree showing a heron in her nest feeding her young. He had made some other pictures, too, showing the home life of other birds.

He exhibited them—all through an evening. Northcliffe seemed entirely happy that evening. He never could see too many birds.

If his American guests twitted him about England, he always had a certain rejoinder that he was sure to level at America.

A neighbor came in wearing extraordinary clothes. They were extraordinary separately and they were still more extraordinary assembled. Everyone of them was in itself a shriek of cut and of color and together they were a collision of all the hours of the day.

When these clothes had been borne away by their wearer Northcliffe said triumphantly:

"There you are! There's not an American of his position living that would dare to wear those clothes! Not one! He simply wouldn't dare! Would he?"

Northcliffe liked to think that Britons were more individually willful than Americans.

He had a copy of George Saintsbury's "Notes on My Wine Cellar"—a delicious book. I was buried—or drowned—in it. Northcliffe took it out of my hands and wrote a few words on the flyleaf and handed it back to me as both a gift and a taunt. The words on the flyleaf were:

"To William Hard on his way back to his country. From a happy wet to a sad and dry."

Northcliffe like to think that Britons were less regulated than Americans. If Americans handed him a British failing he handed them back "American uniformity."

He imposed regulation on himself. In the evening he went away to bed while his guests stayed up. In the dark of the morning he got up while his guests slept. There were the papers then from London and there was a cup of tea and there were hours of editing and directing before breakfast.

He was a reporter of things but still more a reporter of persons and if he himself was the person who had done something interesting he was charmed to report Lord Northcliffe.

On his last trip through Washington his controversy with Lord Curzon and his consequent stay in a hotel instead of with Sir Auckland Geddes at the British Embassy, furnished him with a story that was the best at the moment. I found him at his hotel with Wickham Steel and Willmott Lewis getting the story out of his papers with a perfect delight—perfect because on that story he certainly was in a position to beat the world.

Wherever he is buried I shall go there some day and if the word written over him say that he was a great owner of properties I shall want to erase them and in their place I shall want to write:

"He loved Britain and he loved reporting and he sought stories and the future of Britain everywhere."

**THE MUSKOKA LAKES.**

The Muskoka region of the "Highlands of Ontario" was for centuries the chosen hunting ground of the Hurons. It was the red man who gave the musical name Muskoka (Signifying "clear sky") to this land which held supremacy over all others in his affections, and he christened the islands, promontories, massive sea level—gives splendid at-tive rocks, lakes and rivers in a manner that showed his appreciation of the beauties of his forest home. No happier appellation than "clear sky" could have been adopted, as the altitude of the region—one thousand feet atmospheric conditions. Muskoka spreads its manifold charms to blue skies flecked with soft, white clouds. It is a delectable land, brilliant with rich coloring, its air pungent with the fragrance of the pines, its waters cool and clear; moreover, a land of many pleasures, offering a wide variety of health-giving, open-air sports and pastimes suited to all ages. There are about 100 hotels in the district that cater to those of modest taste as well as those who are most fastidious. The Canadian National-Grand Trunk Railways have issued a handsomely illustrated booklet with list of hotels and which can be had free on application to H. R. Charlton, General Advertising Agent, Grand Trunk Railway System, Montreal, P.Q.

**A CANADIAN QUOTATION.**

What is a world, my boy?  
A little rain, a little sun,  
A little shore where ripples run,  
A little grass upon the hill,  
A little glade, a little rill,  
A little night where shadows move,  
A little work for men to do,  
A little play for such as you,  
A passing night, a coming morn,  
A coming love, a passing scorn;  
Of blackest cloud a little bit  
With silver on the rim of it;  
A little trouble, lots of joy—  
And there you have a world, my boy!  
—Douglas Leader Dunbar, from "A Little Philosophy."

We have never gone on strike to avoid work, but we don't mind confessing that we are a conscientious objector.

Another need of the times is a collection of leaders who will give 51 per cent. of their sympathy to the public.

**LONG LOST INDIAN TRIBE DISCOVERED**

**Philadelphia Ornithologist Makes Remarkable Find in Nicaragua. Skilful Hunters Rapidly Dying Out.**

Philadelphia, Sept. 8.—Wharton Huber, assistant curator of the ornithology section of the Academy of Natural Sciences, returned recently to this city from hitherto little known regions of Nicaragua, where he assembled a large collection of birds, beasts, fish and reptiles, a number of which he believes have not yet been classified. He also claims to have penetrated to the villages of Sumo Indians, who rarely had seen a white man. The scientist's specimens include 600 birds, 40 rare mammals and 2,000 fish, reptiles and insects, all of which will be placed on exhibition in the local institutions.

"My research work was done about 180 miles inland from the Nicaraguan coast," said Mr. Huber. "We established our headquarters at a small mining camp whence we made trips further into the country. The average annual rainfall here is 147 inches. From the time I reached the interior until I left there never was a dry article of clothing on me. The country is infested with red bugs, smaller than fleas, which burrow under the skin and inflict serious wounds.

"I went up the Prinz Polka river for 180 miles in a pitpan, an open boat made of a hollowed-out mahogany log. Then in a smaller pitpan I ascended the Banabana river to Mininda. The district is hilly, and covered with tropical forests so dense that it is impossible to enter them until a way is cut by Indians.

"The only inhabitants are a few scattered tribes of Indians apparently of Spanish and Misquito Indian descent. With a body of these Indians as guides I penetrated to certain villages of the Sumo Indians.

"The Sumo men are very skilful hunters, but the tribe is rapidly becoming extinct. With all their ability in hunting and their courage in facing wild animals, they are excessively timid of strange human beings, and will run away even from members of other Indian tribes. Misquito Indians sometimes walk into their villages and take anything they want without meeting resistance. The Sumos, numbering about 500 souls all told, have the slant, almond eyes of the Chinese and their skin is about the same color as that of a Chinaman."

Mr. Huber had with him a number of dogs, two of which were killed by jaguars. The scientist believes that fully 40 per cent. of the birds and animals he shot were lost to him by "killer dogs" or Indians could make their way into the jungles to the point where they fell. He used dynamite to secure his fish specimens.

Mr. Huber emerged from the jungle region weighing 40 pounds less than when he entered at which time his weight was 180. Although he was warded off illness during his expedition, he was taken down with immediately it was over.

**Wood Alcohol's Victims.**

Figures gathered by the National Committee for the Prevention of Blindness in the Russell Sage Founda-

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tion Building, 120 East Twenty-second Street, New York, show that during the first half of 1922 wood alcohol caused 150 deaths and 22 cases of blindness.

"These figures do not, however, begin to measure the total loss of life or sight through the drinking of bootleggers' whisky containing wood alcohol," said Mrs. Winifred Hathaway, Secretary of the committee, yesterday. "Many relatives and friends of victims try to conceal the real cause of death, and in some cases succeed. And as the deterioration of sight resulting from wood alcohol poisoning is frequently a gradual process, it is difficult to obtain accurate records of the total number of cases of blindness and partial loss of vision from this cause. Even children have been victims."

**Rotarians Will Give Booth Portrait.**

An oil painting of Edwin Booth, painted by J. A. Mohite, will be presented by E. F. Albee to the Rotary Clubs of America at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor. It will be taken by a committee of Rotarians to the Shakespeare Museum at Stratford-on-Avon. It will be America's sole contribution to the Stratford collection.

More than 500 professional men will be present at today's luncheon and ceremony. Robert B. Mantell will make the speech of presentation, and the portrait will be received by Arch. C. Klumph, Past President of the Rotary Clubs of America.

**\$1,000,000 Reward for Cure of Diseases.**

Payment by the U.S.A. Government of \$1,000,000 to the person who discovers a permanent cure for any of five diseases was proposed in a bill by Representative Sproul, Republican, Illinois.

The diseases enumerated are tuberculosis, pneumonia, cancer, epilepsy and dementia praecox.

A board composed of medical experts of the army, navy and public health service would determine whether discoveries were effective.

With styles as they are, it may be that man tells Satan to get behind him because the old boy is obstructing the view.

The movies make use of some good vaudeville acts, but we understand they haven't tried the Volstead act yet.

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